

Appln. No. 09/377,120  
Amendment filed May 9, 2008

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER Filed August 19, 1999

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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-13 (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39 further comprising providing a second plurality of holes in the flitch, and providing a plurality of pusher pins, said second plurality of holes being positioned for receiving the plurality of pusher pins.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the moving step further includes the step of providing means for moving the pusher pins to move the flitch along a longitudinal axis of the flitch into engagement with the stationary dogs.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [ (13) ] 39 further including the step of providing a modular assembly for positioning the plurality of pin dogs and for moving the flitch into engagement with the dogs to mount the flitch on the modular assembly, the modular assembly being removably received by the flitch table.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the flitch table includes means for retaining the modular assembly in position for slicing veneer from the flitch mounted on the modular assembly.

18-33 (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the plurality of dogs have projecting surfaces and their relative movement with respect to the flitch engages the flitch.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the flitch is moved for engagement with the plurality of dogs.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the flitch is moved longitudinally along its central axis.

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37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the staylog is provided with a further plurality of dogs, and the flitch is provided with a further plurality of holes positioned to receive the further plurality of dogs, and the further plurality of dogs are moved to engage the flitch and the first plurality of dogs.

38. (Previously Presented) A method for cutting veneer sheets from a tapered flitch, comprising the steps of:

- providing a staylog for a veneer slicing machine having a veneer slicing knife;
- attaching a flitch having a tapered veneer producing face to the staylog with the tapered veneer producing face affixed in a stable, parallel relationship with the veneer slicing knife; and

- cutting veneer sheets with the veneer slicing knife from the tapered veneer producing face of the flitch.

39. (Previously Presented) A method of retaining a flitch on a flitch table for cutting veneer from the flitch, the flitch table having a plurality of pin dogs, the method comprising the steps of:

- providing a flitch having a first plurality of holes for receiving the plurality of pin dogs, the peripheries of said holes forming a plurality of engagement surfaces;
- positioning the pin dogs in the first plurality of holes; and
- moving the flitch and the plurality of pin dogs into engagement to retain the flitch on the flitch table.

40. (Previously Presented) A method for retaining a tapered flitch for cutting veneer from its tapered outer surface comprising:

- providing a staylog with a plurality of dogs;
- providing the flitch with a plurality of holes positioned to receive the plurality of dogs;
- providing relative motion between the plurality of dogs and the plurality of holes;
- and
- engaging the plurality of dogs with the flitch to retain the flitch in the staylog for cutting.